



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & THEATRE

To Whom It May Concern:

TU's announced reorganization took my breath away. As you can see, I'm currently an associate professor at The University of Scranton where I teach theatre. Like TU, we're facing demographic changes, increasing pressures from the job market, and the rising costs of higher education, but we're not giving up on the core of what makes a university. Your reorganization plan seems to be just that.

When I graduated, I loved to boast about how my degree not only got me ready for a professional career, it also introduced me to my best friends. I'm proud to not only continue to have them in my life, I'm also proud that they came from around the university, majoring in Art, Chemistry, Geology, Physics, and, yes, Theatre. I wonder how much thought has been given to the life of the university and the quality of life of the students. What happens when you strip away that core inquiry into humanistic disciplines and the arts? What happens when a university is just about a career and not about the people in it?

I strongly encourage you to look back to your faculty, a university's greatest resources, and to develop a plan that approaches the future head on and with a sense of the great legacy of TU.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hank Willenbrink

Focus Group Representative for PACT
Associate Professor & Theatre Program Director
The University of Scranton